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ORIGIN/ACTION				AIRGRAM						
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EUR	FE	NEA	CU	SECRET/NOFORN				A-33		
INR	E	P	IO	HANDLING INDICATOR				DEPARTMENT OF STATE		
L	FBO	AID		TO : Department of State				RECEIVED BUREAU OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS		
4/5A, PIR m/K3				MAR 7 8 46 AM 1972				AR 8 - 19/2		
AGR	COM	FRB	INT	FROM : Amembassy, GUATEMALA				DATE: March 3, 1972		
LAB	TAR	TR	XMB	SUBJECT : INTERNAL SECURITY: Monthly Report of Incidents,				RS/AN ANALYSIS BRANCH		
AIR	ARMY	NAVY	OSD	REF : DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CSO/AR				REVIEWED BY <u>Eaf</u> DATE <u>2 OCT 1987</u>		
USIA	NSA	CIA		PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED						
USSS	1	NSC	6	SUMMARY: February press-reported overall level of political violence dropped to its lowest point since early 1971. Nonetheless, the number of Government-guerrilla clashes stepped up markedly, resulting in the reported deaths of two guerrillas and five security force members. The Government [redacted] consigned three left-wing terrorists to the courts. END SUMMARY						81 ED
SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION				Far Left Activity Up: The 14 incidents in the February press attributed to left-wing terrorists represented the highest total in the past seven months and were largely directed towards Government security forces. In the Peten, FAR elements reportedly ambushed, tortured, then killed three military secret agents. In San Marcos, terrorists might have been responsible for the death of a treasury policeman and were probably involved in an unsuccessful attack of a treasury police outpost and assaults against two fincas. In the capital, it appears that subversives may have been involved in a gunfight with National Police detectives in which the police drove their attackers off. In all, four security force members were killed and three wounded in actions attributable to the far Left.						
POST ROUTING				COMMENT: The increase in press-reported guerrilla activity, whatever the reason(s), again demonstrate the far Left's operational capability. END COMMENT						
TO:	Action	Info.	Initials	SECRET/NOFORN						
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Government Counter-Insurgency Moves: The Government met this increased terrorism with some successes of its own, destroying a Quezaltenango PGT ^{hideout} and a Peten guerrilla camp, reportedly rescuing a capital businessman kidnapped by left-wing terrorists, and repelling the two attacks noted above. The GOG also announced the court consignments of three alleged PGT members [REDACTED] who confessed their participation in the January murder of Moises VILLAGRAN in San Marcos. [REDACTED] the Government also consigned three terrorists captured in the rescue operation. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in addition, the Army took several counter-insurgency measures, including stepping up patrolling from bases in the Peten, Izabal, Zacapa, Alta Verapaz, and Quezaltenango. B1
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The Government illegally seized Jose Luis RAMOS, reportedly a PGT Central Committee member, and Julio SAAVEDRA, a non-Communist labor leader, interrogated them severely, then quietly released both. According to the press, "judiciales" (i.e. the National Police Detective Corps) were accused of the kidnappings of four others, although we have no confirmation. [REDACTED] ED

The Government continued its conciliatory public position in the internal security area. Government Minister Jorge ARENALES Catalan reversed himself and authorized the university "Huelga de Dolores" parade, now scheduled for March 24. He also offered to look into any formal accusations that department governors were harassing opposition mayoralty candidates.

Statistics: There were 67 incidents of a probable political nature in February, the lowest total since February 1971. The South Coast again led in regional violence although capital area incidents increased after a two-month decline. There were 14 kidnappings and 37 deaths of an apparent political nature. The latter figure included 11 unidentified individuals, four regular security force members, four small farmers, three military commissioners, two guerrillas, and a finca administrator. The assassinations of two semi-prominent individuals, a Central Bank economist and a Zacapa radio announcer, appeared due to non-political motivations. Fourteen (21%) incidents appeared to be of left-wing terrorist origin, eight (12%) of GOG initiation, and the remainder are unattributable.

Enclosure: Monthly Frequency of
Political Incidents by Region *WRS*

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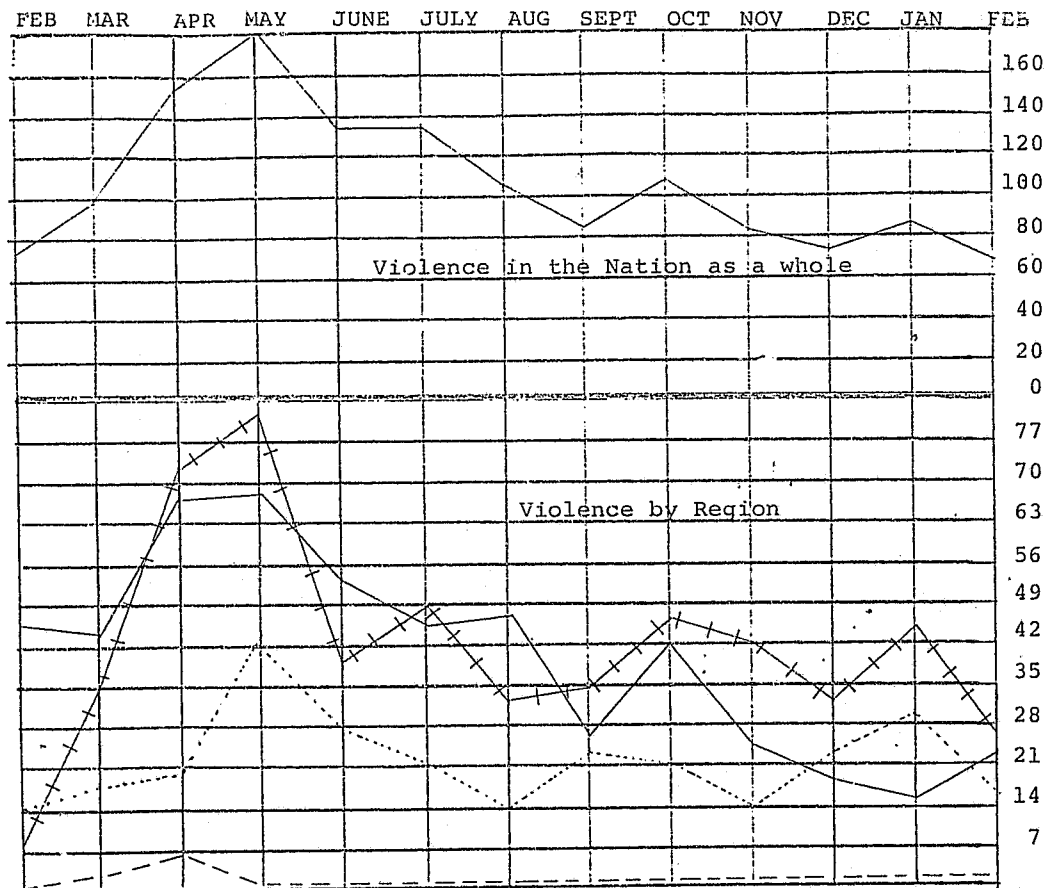
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MONTHLY FREQUENCY OF POLITICAL INCIDENTS BY REGION - FEBRUARY 1971 - FEBRUARY 1972

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Total - 67

For purposes of this graph, acts of violence include shootings, bombings, and deaths, all of which appear to be politically motivated.

- Capital area - Sacatepequez, Guatemala
- South Coast - San Marcos, Quezaltenango, Retalhuleu, Suchitepequez, Escuintla, Santa Rosa
- Eastern Region - Jutiapa, El Progreso, Jalapa, Zacapa, Chiquimula, Izabal, El Peten
- Highlands - Totonicapan, Chimaltenango, Huehuetenango, El Quiche, Baja Verapaz, Alta Verapaz, Solola